

HOUSE BILL 2563
By Winningham

AN ACT to designate State Route 63 as the "Big South Fork
Parkway".

WHEREAS, the free-flowing Big South Fork of the Cumberland River and its tributaries pass through 90 miles of scenic gorges and valleys containing a wide range of natural and historic features; and

WHEREAS, the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area offers a broad range of recreational opportunities including camping, whitewater rafting, kayaking, canoeing, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, hunting and fishing; and

WHEREAS, the lands and facilities of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area are operated and maintained by the National Park Service for the benefit and use of the public in enjoying the rugged, scenic beauty of the Cumberland Plateau; now, therefore,
BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Subject to the limitations of Section 2, State Route 63 from its intersection with U.S. Highway 27 in Scott County to its intersection with Interstate Highway 75 in Campbell County is hereby designated the "Big South Fork Parkway" as a tool to facilitate tourism throughout the Cumberland Plateau region that is home to the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area.

SECTION 2. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed as altering or deleting the designation of a segment of State Route 63 as the "Congressman Howard H. Baker Highway" as provided for in Senate Joint Resolution No. 13 of the Eighty-Second General Assembly, such designation encompassing "that portion of State Highway No. 63 from its intersection with U.S. Highway No. 27 at Helenwood, Tennessee, in Scott County to its intersection with U.S. Highway No. 25 at Caryville, Tennessee, in Campbell County".

SECTION 3. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the segment of State Route 63 described in Section 1 as the "Big South Fork Parkway".

SECTION 4. The department of transportation shall also maintain signage for the "Congressman Howard H. Baker Highway" on the segment of State Route 63 described in Section 2.

SECTION 5. The erection and maintenance of the signs specified in Sections 3 and 4 shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 6. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 7. The provisions of Section 3 of this act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation from nonstate funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in nonstate funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.